

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

ROSE MOFFORD, GOVERNOR
RONALD L. MILLER, PH.D., DIRECTOR

August 24, 1988

President Gerald Anton
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Route 1, Box 216
Scottsdale, AZ 85286

Re: Tri-City Landfill

Dear President Anton:

Thank you for the opportunity of meeting with you and the others to discuss our concerns regarding the Tri-City Landfill. Enclosed is a summary of that meeting which we have drafted. If you feel any clarifications to the summary need to be made, please advise us.

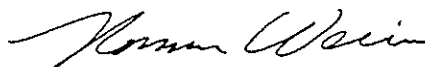
We look forward to working with the Community in addressing our expressed concerns. Your timely response regarding your commitment for improvements at the landfill will be greatly appreciated. Again, the Department is available to provide technical assistance and advice to ensure the facility meets national standards.

It is our understanding that, in this regard, the Department should continue to contact Frank Mertely of your office. If this is not correct, please let us know as soon as possible.

We hope you will inform us by September 14th of your intent so that we can mutually work out a schedule for our respective resources in this matter. Again, I would like to thank you, Councilman Grey and Mr. Mertely for meeting with us.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me at 257-2318. If I am unavailable, please speak with Ty Canez at 257-6829. We are looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Norm Weiss
Assistant Director

NW:bls

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SUMMARY - TRI-CITY MEETING 8/19/88

A meeting was held on August 19th, 1988, between members of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Those in attendance included:

President Gerald Anton
Councilman Lance Grey
Frank Mertely
Norm Weiss
Ty Canez

ADEQ explained its concerns, particularly those related to surface water and ground water protection. A brief was provided which outlined a series of recommendations for consideration. ADEQ again indicated while the State of Arizona is not attempting to exert any type of jurisdiction, ADEQ wants to ensure that the cities using the facility meet state standards. The recommendation for further investigation is a beginning in trying to determine characterization and possible extent of any off-site contamination.

Mr. Mertely explained how the current operations are handled. He indicated they have instituted some operational controls, i.e. limiting liquids and prohibiting infectious and hazardous wastes. He explained how the berms were being constructed. Mr. Mertely provided ADEQ with laboratory analytical data on sampling conducted of the two monitoring wells earlier this month. He also agreed to let ADEQ tour the landfill so both parties could establish a common information base. Mr. Mertely was aware of the proposed new federal requirements and acknowledged that new monitoring wells would probably be needed.

Other points of discussion included:

- A. The recent media coverage as it related to our respective agendas;
- B. The fact that ADEQ is willing to provide technical assistance by means of utilizing the Department's technical staff (hydrologists and engineers) as advisors.
- C. Clarification of national standards versus the state standards.

Citizen suits, subdivision disapproval in cities utilizing the Tri-City Landfill and superfund subjects also were briefly discussed.

The following observations and conclusions are presented.

1. The meeting was positive and a good beginning for opening lines of communication.
2. Frank Mertely will review the Department's concerns and recommendations and get back to ADEQ.
3. The Tribe provided to ADEQ its latest sampling results of the two monitoring wells.
4. The Tribe indicated they would allow DEQ staff to tour the landfill so both parties can have a better base of information for further discussion.
5. There appears to be a common desire on both sides to operate an environmentally acceptable sanitary landfill which meets federal standards.

NW:bls
8/24/88